

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCA-01 AID-05 IO-13 IGA-02
OMB-01 TRSE-00 L-03 SS-15 SP-02 STR-04 AGRE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6797

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SPOP, TU

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR POPULATION INFORMATION

REF: (A) STATE 167895, (B) 76 ANKARA 1177

1. DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION. GOVERNMENT'S MID-1976 ESTIMATE
OF TOTAL POPULATION IS 41,085,000. BIRTH AND DEATH RATE
ESTIMATES FOR 1975 AND 1976 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

	(PER THOUSAND) BIRTH RATE	(PER THOUSAND) DEATH RATE
1975	40.3	13.0
1976	39.0	12.0

2. POPULATION PROGRAMS. TURKEY DOES NOT HAVE WELL-DEFINED
POPULATION CONTROL PROGRAM AS RELIGIOUS SENTIMENT MAKES THIS
A RATHER SENSITIVE MATTER. CURRENT THREE-PARTY COALITION
GOVERNMENT IS RELIGIOUS-ORIENTED AND THE PROGRAM OF THE
SECOND DEMIREL COALITION GOVERNMENT JUST ELECTED FOR FOUR
YEARS (1977-1981) IS SILENT ON POPULATION PLANNING.
THERE IS, HOWEVER, AN ALREADY ESTABLISHED SYSTEM WHICH EXTENDS
GOVERNMENTAL SUPPORT TO FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES IN THE CONTEXT
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OF AN INTEGRATED MATERNAL AND CHILD-HEALTH PROGRAM UNDER
THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE POPULATION PLANNING GENERAL
DIRECTORATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH. WITH THE HELP OF THE
UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES (UNFPA), TURKEY
INITIATED A RURAL HEALTH/FAMILY PLANNING (RH/FP) PROGRAM IN 1974
ON AN EXPERIMENTAL BASIS IN TWO PROVINCES (ANKARA-SMALL
SCALE, AND YOZGAT). EXPENDITURES FOR RH/FP SERVICES IN THOSE

PROVINCES FROM 1974 TO 1977 AMOUNTED TO \$2.5 MILLION. IT WAS DECIDED AFTER UNFPA 1976 COUNTRY REVIEW THAT AN ADDITIONAL \$5.3 MILLION WOULD BE RELEASED FOR RH/FP SERVICES FROM 1977 TO 1980. ACCORDING TO PRESENT UNFPA AND MINISTRY OF HEALTH PLANS, RH/FP SERVICES WILL CONTINUE IN ANKARA AND YOZGAT AND THREE ADDITIONAL PROVINCES (TRABZON, EDIRNE, MALATYA) WILL BE ADDED IN 1977 AND FOUR ADDITIONAL PROVINCES (AFYON, BOLU, CANKIRI, ERZURUM) IN 1978. (THERE ARE 67 PROVINCES IN TURKEY). THE PROVINCES FOR WHICH RH/FP SERVICES ARE TO BE EXTENDED DURING 1979-1980 WILL BE DETERMINED AFTER DISCUSSIONS WITH THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

3. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT SEVERAL BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT ARE BEING DEVELOPED. PATHFINDER FUND PLANS TO IMPLEMENT A RH/FP PROJECT IN TWO PROVINCES (KONYA AND DENIZLI) NOT COVERED BY UNFPA ASSISTANCE. FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND U.K. ARE WILLING TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR RH/FP SERVICES IN TWO OTHER PROVINCES TO BE DETERMINED BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH. ALSO, A HEALTH MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT PROJECT, TO BE IMPLEMENTED BY WHO, IS TO BE FUNDED BY UNDP FOR THE PURPOSE OF TRAINING AND DEVELOPING MANPOWER NECESSARY FOR HEALTH SERVICES, INCLUDING FAMILY PLANNING, EQUAL IN QUANTITY AND QUALITY IN ALL PARTS OF TURKEY.

4. NON-POPULATION PROGRAMS AFFECTING POPULATION GROWTH.
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TURKISH GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZES INFLUENCE OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS ON POPULATION GROWTH. GOVERNMENT'S THIRD FIVE-YEAR PLAN PROPOSALS FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ARE SCATTERED UNDER VARIOUS HEADINGS SUCH AS INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT POLICY, AGRICULTURAL AND LAND REFORM, EDUCATION REFORM, HEALTH AND FISCAL AND CREDIT POLICIES. THE PLAN PROPOSED THAT THE LESS DEVELOPED AREAS, PARTICULARLY EASTERN ANATOLIA, BE DESIGNATED AS PRIORITY AREAS FOR INCENTIVE POLICIES AND PUBLIC INVESTMENT. THE PLAN, HOWEVER, RECOGNIZES THAT THIS IS A LONG-TERM OBJECTIVE WHICH CAN BE ACHIEVED ONLY OVER A CONSIDERABLE PERIOD OF TIME. THE MAIN ELEMENTS OF THE PLAN STRATEGY TOWARDS ACHIEVEMENT OF REGIONAL OBJECTIVES ARE TO RAISE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY AND DIVERSIFY AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION WHILE MODERNIZING RURAL LIVING CONDITIONS, TO EXPAND PUBLIC INVESTMENT AND PROMOTE PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN INDUSTRY AND TO RAISE THE STANDARDS OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND SOCIAL SERVICES, PARTICULARLY HEALTH AND EDUCATION, TO NATIONAL LEVELS.

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ACTION OES-07

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AGRE-00 EB-08 COME-00 HEW-04 CIAE-00 INR-07

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5. NO LEGAL RESTRICTIONS EXIST AGAINST THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN INTO THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS. EVERY INDIVIDUAL, FEMALE OR MALE, IS ENTITLED TO FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES WHICH CANNOT BE USURPED, TRANSFERRED OR RELINQUISHED AND, BY CONSTITUTION, THE STATE IS REQUIRED TO REMOVE ALL POLITICAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL OBSTACLES THAT RESTRICT THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES. BUT, WHILE WOMEN CONTRIBUTE TO SOME EXTENT TO THE OVERALL DEVELOPMENT PROCESS IN URBAN AREAS, THIS CANNOT BE SAID FOR THOSE IN THE LESS DEVELOPED RURAL AREAS WHERE SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND RELIGIOUS AND/OR TRADITIONAL FACTORS PRESENTLY STAND AS BARRIERS TO THEIR HIGHER EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT IN DEVELOPMENT.

6. THE THIRD AND FOURTH FIVE-YEAR PLANS (THE LATTER IS IN PREPARATION) AIM TO EQUALIZE THE PROVISIONS OF HEALTH AND EDUCATION SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. AT THE PRIMARY LEVEL, REGIONAL BOARDING SCHOOLS ARE PLANNED, THE FIRST TO BE SET UP IN EASTERN ANATOLIA, WITH AN 8-YEAR CYCLE AND NEW CURRICULA; THOSE ARE EXPECTED TO PROVIDE BETTER EDUCATION AT LOWER COST PER PUPIL. REFORMS ARE ALSO PROPOSED IN SECONDARY AND HIGHER EDUCATION IN FAVOR OF THE PRIORITY AREA OF EASTERN ANATOLIA. A HEALTH PROGRAM, DESIGNED TO ATTRACT THE SERVICES OF DOCTORS AND NURSES TO THE SO-CALLED "SOCIALIZED" LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RURAL AREAS HAD ALREADY COVERED 25 PROVINCES BY 1972. THE THIRD PLAN CALLED FOR EXPANSION OF THIS HEALTH PROGRAM TO 21 ADDITIONAL PROVINCES. THE PROGRAM HAS SO FAR REACHED 18 OF THE

21. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE FOURTH PLAN WILL ADD TO THE
NUMBER OF PROVINCES COVERED.

7. FOOD AND POPULATION. PROSPECTS FOR EXPANDING LOCAL
FOOD PRODUCTION ARE EXTREMELY GOOD. TURKEY IS BUILDING
NEW FERTILIZER PLANTS, EXPANDING ITS IRRIGATION CAPACITY AND
OTHERWISE INVESTING TO INCREASE ITS AGRICULTURAL
PRODUCTION. TURKEY IMPORTS LITTLE FOOD EVEN AT PRESENT
AND ITS DEPENDENCY ON FOOD IMPORTS IS NOT LIKELY TO INCREASE
BETWEEN NOW AND 1985. BASIC POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT IS,
IN FACT, FOOD SELF-SUFFICIENCY. WITH EXCEPTION OF SOME
IMPORTS OF VEGETABLE OIL, TURKEY JUST ABOUT ACHIEVED THIS
GOAL FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS. FROM TIME TO TIME, ADVERSE
WEATHER CONDITIONS COULD FORCE TURKEY TO IMPORT WHEAT UNTIL
ITS PROGRAM FOR EXPANDING PERMANENT STORAGE FACILITIES
FOR CEREALS IS COMPLETED ABOUT 1980. TURKEY IMPORTS ONLY
ABOUT 50,000 TONS OF RICE ANNUALLY. IT HAS MORE CATTLE
AND SHEEP THAN ARE NEEDED TO FILL ITS MEAT REQUIREMENTS. THE
COUNTRY IS AN ABUNDANT PRODUCER OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

8. REF B PROVIDES WHAT IS STILL A USEFUL EVALUATION OF
POPULATION SITUATION IN TURKEY.
SPIERS

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